

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A slide guiding device comprising:

a slide guiding surface provided on a support member;

a sliding surface provided on a movable slide, which is guided on the slide guiding surface for movement thereon, and slidably movable on the slide guiding surface;

[[an]] a plurality of oil groove grooves, each with a first supply hole for supplying lubrication oil to a contact surface area between the sliding surface and the slide guiding surface;

an oil pocket formed independently of the oil groove for retaining the lubrication oil supplied to the contact surface area between the sliding surface and the slide guiding surface, the oil pocket provided with a second supply hole for supplying the lubrication oil into the oil pocket, and

air discharge means for discharging air from the oil pocket,

wherein said oil grooves are independently arranged in a sliding direction.

Claims 2-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Original): The slide guiding device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the oil pocket is provided close to an end portion of the contact surface area between the sliding surface and the slide guiding surface.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Previously presented): The slide guiding device as set forth in claim 11, wherein the oil pocket is provided close to an end portion of the contact surface area between the sliding surface and the slide guiding surface.

Claim 8 (Previously presented): The slide guiding device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the oil groove, the oil pocket and the air discharge means are provided on the sliding surface.

Claim 9 (Previously presented): The slide guiding device as set forth in claim 11, wherein the oil groove, the oil pocket and the air discharge means are provided on the sliding surface.

Claim 10 (Previously presented): The slide guiding device as set forth in claim 5, wherein the oil groove, the oil pocket and the air discharge means are provided on the sliding surface.

Claim 11 (Previously presented): A slide guiding device comprising:
a slide guiding surface provided on a support member;
a sliding surface provided on a movable slide, which is guided on the slide guiding surface for movement thereon, and slidably movable on the slide guiding surface;
an oil groove with a first supply hole for supplying lubrication oil to a contact surface area between the sliding surface and the slide guiding surface;

an oil pocket formed independently of the oil groove for retaining the lubrication oil supplied to the contact surface area between the sliding surface and the slide guiding surface, wherein the oil pocket is provided with a second supply hole for supplying the lubrication oil into the oil pocket, and

air discharge means for discharging air from the oil pocket.

Claim 12 (Previously presented): The slide guiding device as set forth in claim 11, wherein the oil pocket is provided close to an end portion of the contact surface area between the sliding surface and the slide guiding surface.